

**DUKAKIS RECOGNITION COMMITTEE**  
**April 30, 2012**  
**MINUTES**

*Present: Jesse Mermell, Brian Kane, Rebecca Stone, Chris Chanyasulkit, Al Raine, Chris Santos, Melissa Goff*

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Jesse Mermell began the meeting by reviewing the Committee's charge as outlined in the warrant article submitted at the May, 2011 Annual Town Meeting. She asked Melissa Goff who also staffs the Naming Committee to give some background on the Naming Committee process. The Naming Committee is fairly new; their guidelines were distributed to the group. They have four general criteria for naming facilities outlined in their guidelines. Rooms and associated spaces under the jurisdiction of the Library Trustees and School Committee are not within their purview. Naming requests get sent to the Committee who then vote on the proposal. The Naming Committee would then submit a warrant article to Town Meeting for those proposals that receive a favorable vote. If that space is a Park and Rec facility, proposals should first go to Park and Rec for review. John Bain is on the Naming Committee as the Park and Rec representative, and is also on this Committee. He will be abstaining from votes to avoid a conflict.

Jesse then opened up discussion to committee members on any ideas they had to recognize Michael and Kitty Dukakis. She mentioned that some members of the Board of Selectmen expressed support for a statue. Brian Kane suggested that Riverway Park may be an option; although there are no names in the Emerald Necklace he thinks that they may be open to this possibility. He also likes the idea of a statue. He also suggested Town Hall or Brookline High School. Rebecca Stone said that the Brookline High brand is so developed that she did not think that would be a viable option. Chris Santos suggested that the building could be named without re-naming the school. Chris Chanyasulkit said that one of her constituents suggested the Old Lincoln School. Committee members agreed that there really isn't a connection at Old Lincoln. Rebecca Stone suggested Longwood Park may be better suited since it's at the end of their street and they bring their grandchildren there. Al Raine said that he liked the idea of a park, but thought that they would not be comfortable with a statue. He had thought that a scholarship or internship program in their name might be appropriate.

Chris Santos suggested that since the Dukakis' are advocates of public service that maybe an existing program at BHS could be named in their honor. Rebecca replied that although there is a service requirement for graduation there is no specific office coordinating that requirement. Chris also suggested an annual lecture at the High School on Public Service. Brian Kane responded that Northeastern University already has a lecture series named in their honor. He is more interested in a physical naming opportunity. Jesse Mermell agreed, and gave the MLK celebration as an example of an event named in honor of MLK that has waxed and waned and is dependent on leadership in order to continue. Brian suggested Town Hall as a naming opportunity. Al said that the High School is more meaningful, but he also likes the park ideas. An internship

program might be easier to implement. The committee discussed the potential of having a mental health internship program. Jesse assigned the following tasks for the ideas that the committee came up with:

- Riverway Park- Brian will talk to members of the Emerald Necklace Conservancy to get more information
- Longwood Park- Jesse will discuss the idea with Erin Chute-Gallentine the Director of Parks and Open Space
- Internships- Melissa will get more information on how the Health Department and Planning Department internship programs work.
- Graduation award- Rebecca will explore this idea further

The Committee agreed to set the next meeting for May 17<sup>th</sup> at 6PM.

Adjourned at 6:40PM.